

JUL 10 2008

Docket no.60158-243-PUS1;129

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A fluid handling combination assembly comprising:
a housing ~~for receiving a tube~~;
a collet retainer received within said housing, said collet retainer extending generally circumferentially around a central axis, with an expansion gap at one circumferential location and a groove at another circumferential location, said collet retainer being provided with self-centering structure for ensuring said collet retainer is generally centered about a central axis of said housing; and
a tube held within said housing by having an upset portion positioned inwardly of said collet retainer.
2. (Original) An assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said collet retainer self-centering structure includes a leg extending axially inwardly, and received within a channel to center said collet retainer.
3. (Original) An assembly as set forth in claim 2, wherein a pilot is positioned axially inwardly of said collet retainer, said pilot member including said channel for receiving said leg, and centering said collet retainer.
4. (Currently Amended) An assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said collet retainer has a ramped ~~angled inwardly facing surface~~, said ramped ~~inwardly facing~~ surface coming into contact with a cam surface when ~~a said~~ tube is moved to bring said collet retainer axially into said housing, said cam surface causing said ramped ~~inwardly facing angled~~ surface of said collet retainer to cam radially outwardly and assist radial expansion of said collet retainer as ~~a said~~ tube is moved into said housing.

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5. (Original) An assembly as set forth in claim 4, wherein said cam surface is on a pilot positioned inwardly of said collet retainer.

6. (Currently Amended) A fluid handling combination assembly comprising:
a housing for receiving a tube;
a collet retainer received within said housing, said collet retainer extending generally circumferentially around a central axis, ~~but having~~with an expansion gap at one circumferential location and a groove at another circumferential location, said collet retainer being provided with self-centering structure for ensuring said collet retainer is generally centered about a central axis of said housing;

a tube held within said housing by having an upset portion positioned inwardly of said collet retainer; and

said collet retainer has a ramped angled inwardly facing surface, said ramped inwardly facing surface coming into contact with a cam surface when ~~a~~said tube is moved to bring said collet retainer axially into said housing, said cam surface causing said ramped inwardly facing angled surface of said collet retainer to cam radially outwardly and assist radial expansion of said collet retainer as ~~a~~said tube is moved into said housing.

7. (Original) An assembly as set forth in claim 6, wherein said cam surface is on a pilot positioned inwardly of said collet retainer.

8. (New) An assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said groove is circumferentially located about 180 degrees along said collet from said expansion gap.

9. (New) An assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said groove is U-shaped.

10. (New) An assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said groove extends partially radially into said collet retainer and said expansion gap extends fully radially through said collet retainer.

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11. (New) An assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said self-centering structure includes a pilot member having a channel extending between a radially outer pilot wall and a radially inner pilot wall, and a leg on said collet retainer that extends axially inwardly for being received within said channel to center said collet retainer, said collet retainer including a ramped surface that is transversely angled relative to the leg, said ramped surface coming into contact with the pilot member when said tube is moved to bring said collet retainer axially into said housing, said pilot member causing said ramped surface of said collet retainer to cam radially outwardly and assist radial expansion of said collet retainer

12. (New) A fluid handling combination assembly comprising:

a housing;

a collet retainer received within said housing, said collet retainer extending generally circumferentially around a central axis, with an expansion gap at one circumferential location of the collet retainer, said collet retainer being provided with a self-centering structure for ensuring said collet retainer is generally centered about a central axis of said housing; and

said self-centering structure including a pilot member having a channel extending between a radially outer pilot wall and a radially inner pilot wall, and a leg on said collet retainer that extends axially inwardly for being received within said channel to center said collet retainer, said collet retainer including a ramped surface that is transversely angled relative to the leg, said ramped surface coming into contact with the pilot member when a tube is moved to bring said collet retainer axially into said housing, said pilot member causing said ramped surface of said collet retainer to cam radially outwardly and assist radial expansion of said collet retainer.

13. (New) An assembly as set forth in claim 12, wherein said ramped surface is angled 45° relative to the central axis of the collet retainer.

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14. (New) An assembly as set forth in claim 12, wherein said leg is located between said channel and said ramped surface.